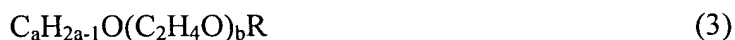


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

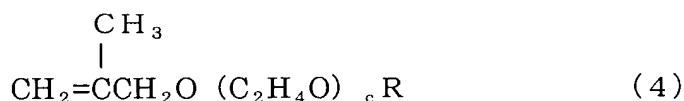
1. – 6. (cancelled).

7. (currently amended) A method of preparing a composition of matter comprising polyethersilicone by reacting a polyether having an unsaturated bond at an end thereof with a hydrogensilicone in the presence of a noble metal catalyst, the method comprising the steps of:

reacting a polyether represented by the following formula (3) or (4) with a hydrogensilicone,



wherein a is 3 or 4, b is an integer of from 1 to 3, and R is a CH₃ group or a C₂H₅ group,



wherein c is an integer of from 1 to 6, and R is a CH₃ group or a C₂H₅ group, and

subjecting the reaction mixture thus obtained to vacuum distillation to distill off unreacted polyether of the above formula (3) or (4), ~~without treating the unreacted polyether with water or with an aqueous solution of pH no greater than 7 or with an acidic substance before the vacuum distillation,~~

to thereby attain a weight ratio in said composition of matter, determined by H-NMR, of the polyether which has not been reacted with the hydrogensilicone to the starting polyether of 8 % or less.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~at~~ the composition of matter comprising polyethersilicone has a viscosity at 25°C of from 1 to 20 mm²/s.

9. (previously presented) A solvent for an electrolytic solution comprising the composition prepared by the method of claim 7.